

Application No.: 10/677,075

Docket No.: TOW-045RCE2

REMARKS

Applicant amends independent claim 1. Claims 1-6 are currently pending, of which claim 1 is independent. No new matter has been introduced. Support for the claim amendments can be found at page 13, line 27 to page 14, line 7 of the specification. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Specification

In the foregoing amendments to the specification, Applicant amends the title of the present application to read "Electronic Key System for Motorcycle." No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103**Claim 1**

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent Number 6,515,580 to Isoda et al (hereafter "Isoda") in view of United States Patent Number 5,124,565 to Yoshida et al (hereafter "Yoshida"). Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda and Yoshida references, alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest at least the following feature of amended independent claim 1: "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission."

The Isoda reference relates to an antitheft device for vehicles. A vehicle includes a main switch 21 that is switched by a suitably coded key 22 (Isoda, Figure 1). The main switch 21 includes an antenna 23 that receives signals from a transponder carried on the key 22 so as to determine if an authorized user is operating the vehicle (Isoda, Figure 1). The main switch 21 and antenna 23 may be mounted near the handlebar assembly 15 (Isoda, Figure 1).

Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda reference does not teach or suggest "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of

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transmission," as recited in claim 1. The Isoda reference does not discuss the ranges of transmission of the antenna or the transponder signals. In particular, the Isoda reference does not teach or suggest that a transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, an electronic key has a second range of transmission, and the first range of transmission is smaller than the second range of transmission. In contrast, Applicant's claim 1 requires "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission." This feature allows the claimed invention to achieve the operational effects described at page 24, line 3 to page 26, line 1 of the specification.

In view of the foregoing arguments, Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda reference does not teach or suggest each and every feature of amended independent claim 1. The addition of the Yoshida reference fails to cure this deficiency.

The Yoshida reference relates to an electric power supply control device for a vehicle. An antenna 17 is disposed on the vehicle body so as to transmit and receive signals between a control unit 16 for controlling a code transmitter 18 (Yoshida, column 4). The code transmitter 18 transmits a code signal in response to a request signal (Yoshida, column 4).

Applicant respectfully submits that the Yoshida reference also does not teach or suggest "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission," as recited in claim 1. The Yoshida reference does not discuss the ranges of transmission of the antenna or the transponder signals. In particular, the Yoshida reference does not teach or suggest that a transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, an electronic key has a second range of transmission, and the first range of transmission is smaller than the second range of transmission. In contrast, Applicant's claim 1 requires "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission."

In view of the foregoing arguments, Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda and Yoshida references, alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every feature of amended independent claim 1. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 defines

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over the art of record. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 1.

Claims 2 and 3

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Isoda reference in view of the Yoshida reference as applied to claim 1 above, and in view of United States Patent Number 6,078,293 to Yamamoto (hereafter "Yamamoto"). Claims 2 and 3 depend upon independent claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda, Yoshida and Yamamoto references, alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest at least the following feature of amended independent claim 1: "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission."

As discussed above in connection with claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda and Yoshida references, alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every feature of amended independent claim 1. The addition of the Yamamoto reference fails to cure this deficiency.

The Yamamoto reference relates to an antenna 1A mounted inside of a switch main body 1C of a column switch 1 supporting a steering wheel 2. Applicant respectfully submits that the Yamamoto reference also does not teach or suggest "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission," as recited in claim 1. The Yamamoto reference does not discuss the ranges of transmission of the antenna or the transponder signals. In particular, the Yamamoto reference does not teach or suggest that a transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, an electronic key has a second range of transmission, and the first range of transmission is smaller than the second range of transmission. In contrast, Applicant's claim 1 requires "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission."

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In view of the foregoing arguments, Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda, Yoshida and Yamamoto references, alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every feature of amended independent claim 1. Claims 2 and 3 depend upon claim 1, and add separate and patentable limitations to claim 1. As such, for this and the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claims define over the art of record.

Claims 4-6

Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Isoda reference in view of the Yoshida reference as applied to claim 1 above, and in view of United States Patent Number 4,132,994 to Caldwell (hereafter "Caldwell"). Claims 4-6 depend upon independent claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda, Yoshida and Caldwell references, alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest at least the following feature of amended independent claim 1: "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission."

As discussed above in connection with claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda and Yoshida references, alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every feature of amended independent claim 1. The addition of the Caldwell reference fails to cure this deficiency.

The Caldwell reference relates to a radio antenna 22 mounted along the edge of a windshield 18. Applicant respectfully submits that the Caldwell reference also does not teach or suggest "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission," as recited in claim 1. The Caldwell reference does not discuss the ranges of transmission of the antenna or the transponder signals. In particular, the Caldwell reference does not teach or suggest that a transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, an electronic key has a second range of transmission, and the first range of transmission is smaller than the second range of transmission. In contrast, Applicant's claim 1 requires "said transmitting antenna has a first range of transmission, said electronic key has a second range of

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transmission, and said first range of transmission is smaller than said second range of transmission."

In view of the foregoing arguments, Applicant respectfully submits that the Isoda, Yoshida and Caldwell references, alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every feature of amended independent claim 1. Claims 4-6 depend upon claim 1, and add separate and patentable limitations to claim 1. As such, for this and the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claims define over the art of record.

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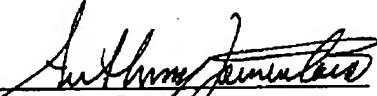
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and arguments, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Any fee due is authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. TOW-045RCE2 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw. If the requisite petition does not accompany this response, the undersigned hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely.

Dated: August 30, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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